



German Federal Employment Agency

One of the largest database migration projects in Europe

In 2004, the German Federal Employment Agency in Nuremberg, as the largest Informix user in Europe, decided to migrate its database platform to Oracle.

Siemens IT Solutions and Services was selected as the strategic service provider for the migration. As a result, a total of about 80,000 users is working with Oracle.

The project

Under a contract with the German Federal Employment Agency, Siemens carried out the migration project "ZEDAX" (Central Data Storage under UNIX). The primary goal was a migration of the existing Informix database to an Oracle Real Application Clusters (RAC) architecture and the provision of a personnel database that all the applications of the German Federal Employment Agency could access in a timely and consistent manner.

The project was started in April 2004 and completed and put into operation in June 2005 – right on time.

The challenge

The greatest challenge in the project "ZEDAX" was the migration of the central personnel database from Informix to Oracle.

- This database is pivotal to the business-critical applications in the German Federal Employment Agency and is utilized daily by about 80,000 users.
- Implementation of a fallback solution that, for a certain period during and after the migration, offered the option of switching to the original system within the shortest possible time.
- Providing an extremely high-performance replication between Informix and Oracle for the go-live process.

"We were convinced by the professional project execution during deployment and migration."

Beate Lindenau,
Project manager,
German Federal
Employment Agency

Benefits

- Long-time investment protection through the switch to a strategic database system
- All agencies can access a common information center, ensuring 100 percent data consistency and collaboration throughout Germany.
- Increased system availability through the use of the Oracle RAC architecture, 24/7 availability
- First step towards a modern, flexible, service-oriented architecture

The solution

The project "ZEDAX" encompassed all facets of a classic, complex migration project:

- Strategic consulting and the creation of a concept
- Design and implementation of the Oracle RAC architecture
- Construction of the complete system infrastructure for operating the new database platform
- Creation of an operating concept and operating manual for the operation of Oracle Real Application Clusters (RAC) in accordance with the ITIL methodology
- Creation and implementation of a sophisticated backup/recovery concept to guarantee the shortest possible recovery times
- Development of a coexistence concept to secure the go-live phase
- Setting up system and DB management and monitoring (PATROL and Oracle Enterprise Manager)
- Migration of the existing databases on a specific fixed date
- Execution of intensive load tests to ensure the success of the migration
- Execution of customer-specific training measures and know-how transfer for developers and administrators
- Creation of a script in which the successive activities from planning, to the final dry run, right up to the day of migration were recorded, processed, and monitored. Load tests with 150,000 parallel users as well as testing of possible migration variants provided additional security.

Our services

- Technical sub-project management
- Consulting and support in all migration and performance matters
- Evaluation of an optimal migration strategy, including fallback scenario
- Concept
- Design and implementation
- User training
- Organization and execution of the switchover to productive use
- Structuring and design of a service-oriented architecture for the operation of Oracle on the basis of the Real Application Clusters

Technical basis

- ORACLE 9.2, Real Application Clusters
- 2x Fujitsu Siemens PRIMEPOWER P2500
- EMC2
- Persistence as middleware between the database and applications

Target groups

The applications are used daily by all the administrative personnel in the German Federal Employment Agency.



**Bundesagentur
für Arbeit**

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Order No.
U29500-J-Z401-1-7600
10/07 | Printed in Germany

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